



Lincoln County

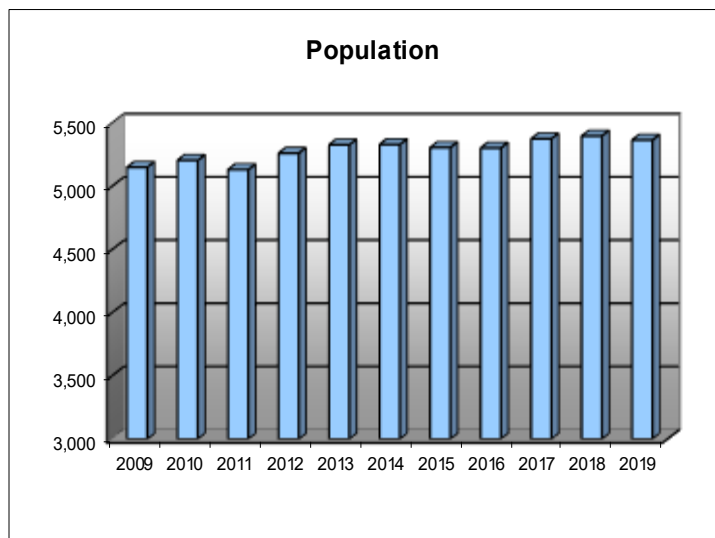
September 2020

IDAHO
DEPT. OF LABOR

Workforce Trends

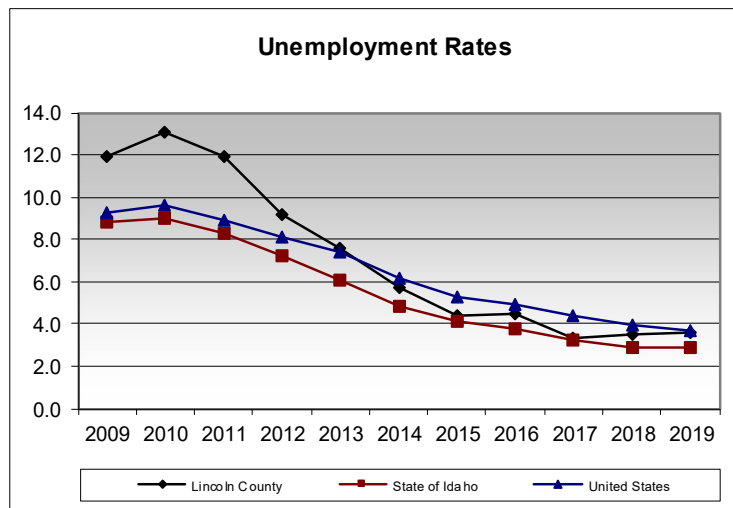
Population

Since 2009, Lincoln County's population has risen 4.2% to 5,366 in 2019. From 2018, the county experienced a loss of .6%. The city of Shoshone, considered the gateway to Sun Valley, is the county seat with a population of 1,502. Its base economy is agriculture with several large dairies contributing to the industry's regional growth. Manufacturing was nearly nonexistent prior to Glanbia Food's whey processing plant in Richfield and Rocky Mountain Hardware, which machines high-end brass fixtures and hardware in Shoshone. As a bedroom community to both the Wood River Valley and the Twin Falls MSA, workers have an easy commute. Affordable housing continues to be an issue in the Wood River Valley. This gap fueled growth of subdivisions and residential construction in adjacent communities like Shoshone. There is a high ownership ratio of 73 percent and low level of multi-family households at 4.4 percent. The average household size is large at 3.26 versus the nation at 2.63. The Hispanic population comprises almost 30% of its population, in line with contiguous counties Jerome and Gooding.



Labor Force & Employment

Unemployment trends are a roller coaster in Lincoln County. The seasonally adjusted rate peaked at 13.1 percent in 2010 moving to a record low in 2017 of 3.3 percent. Since 2010 the unemployment rate has been steadily declining with more consistency over the last three years. Economic diversification has created new jobs over the last five years, mainly in manufacturing and the services. Dairies have brought stability to a workforce that traditionally sought jobs in seasonal industries such as tourism, landscaping and crop production. Prior to the recession, retail had been popping up to serve the highway traffic between Twin Falls and the Wood River Valley. Manufacturing jobs have raised area wages. Hay, grains, corn and other crops that can be green chopped for dairy silage are the primary commodities. The U.S. Bureau of Land Management's regional headquarters and the National Interagency Fire Center dispatch operation are seasonal employers. The

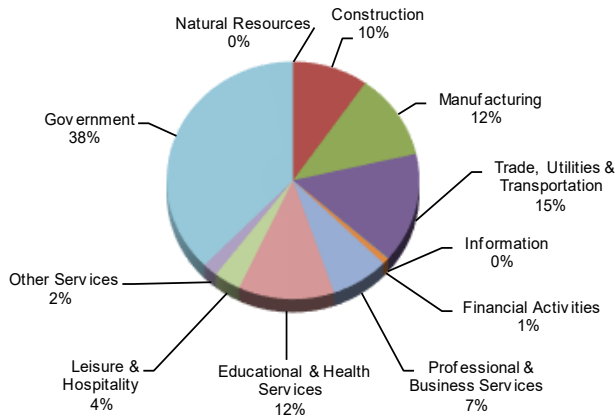


Labor Force	Aug 19	Aug 20
Civilian Labor Force	2,705	2,774
Total Employment	2,609	2,653
Unemployed	96	121
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.5	4.4
State of Idaho % Unemployed	2.9	4.2
U.S. % Unemployed	3.7	8.4

Idaho Transportation Department has a sizeable presence in Shoshone with periodic talk of moving the regional office to a larger community. New housing interest spiked prior to the downturn and has not returned to the same degree. The county's civilian labor force grows in sync with the population, losing .1% in 2019. The outlook is for flat growth dependent on the tourism industry in Blaine County that has been compromised due to COVID-19.

Labor Force	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Civilian Labor Force	2,584	2,709	2,682	2,699	2,647	2,603	2,641	2,646	2,702	2,705	2,703
Unemployment	309	354	320	247	201	149	117	118	88	94	96
% of Labor Force Unemployed	12.0	13.1	11.9	9.2	7.6	5.7	4.4	4.5	3.3	3.5	3.6
Employment	2,275	2,355	2,362	2,452	2,446	2,454	2,524	2,528	2,614	2,611	2,607

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2019



Major Employers

4 Brothers Dairy
AHS of Idaho
Big Wood Canal Company
Desano Place Inc.
Glanbia NA
Idaho Dept of Transportation
Lincoln County Care Center
Rocky Mountain Hardware
Sawtooth Cattle Company LLC
Sweet's Septic & Backhoe Service
U.S. Bureau of Land Management
Valley Co-Op

Wages & Income

Per capita income in Lincoln County grew 33.5% since 2009, ranking it 28th among Idaho's 44 counties. In 2018, Lincoln County's per capita income level ranked 8th regionally and 40th statewide. Per capita income increased 3.5% in 2018 from 2017. Lincoln's per capita income is 64% of the nation's and 79% of the state's per capita income. The county is comprised of agricultural jobs or service jobs that feed Blaine County's labor market demands contributing to the lower wage structure.

From 2018 to 2019, Lincoln's total average wage grew by 3.2% with .7% growth in average employment. Those that live in Lincoln County are workers and appreciate the choices of commuting south or north for job options. The outlook is for slow growth closely tied to the nation's economy with wages continuing to trend low.

South Central Idaho Occupational Wages*	Entry Wage	Median Wage
Construction Labor	\$10.45	\$14.79
Bookkeeping, Accounting, & Auditing Clerks	\$10.60	\$19.29
Cashiers	\$8.96	\$10.99
Farmworkers, Farm & Ranch Animals	\$8.97	\$12.66
Firefighters	\$10.58	\$13.87
Janitors & Cleaners	\$9.90	\$13.50
Packaging & Filling Machine Operators	\$12.58	\$16.35
Receptionists & Information Clerks	\$16.35	\$12.65
Teachers, Elementary	\$33,645	\$52,710
Teachers, Secondary	\$36,831	\$48,703
Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	\$10.65	\$16.50

* Additional occupational wage data can be found on the Idaho Department of Labor website at imi.idaho.gov.

Covered Employment & Average Annual Wages Per Job for 2009, 2018 & 2019	2009		2018		2019	
	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
Total Covered Wages	1,410	\$29,228	1,693	\$36,200	1,705	\$37,353
Agriculture	240	\$26,949	447	\$38,503	428	\$40,199
Mining	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Construction	130	\$28,984	131	\$37,566	125	\$38,710
Manufacturing	127	\$50,306	143	\$62,214	151	\$64,055
Trade, Utilities & Transportation	143	\$18,921	167	\$24,716	181	\$26,764
Information	**	**	**	\$0	**	**
Financial Activities	20	\$15,487	12	\$32,586	11	\$31,869
Professional and Business Services	48	\$29,175	91	\$35,462	96	\$35,766
Educational and Health Services	123	\$26,216	167	\$25,455	159	\$26,840
Leisure and Hospitality	47	\$9,249	44	\$11,314	45	\$11,598
Other Services	7	\$24,279	18	\$25,362	25	\$22,392
Government	524	\$31,198	474	\$36,583	483	\$37,174

Per Capita Income	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Lincoln County	\$26,088	\$29,825	\$34,131	\$32,934	\$34,809	\$36,429	\$35,727	\$33,155	\$33,566	\$34,821
State of Idaho	\$31,186	\$31,957	\$33,515	\$35,188	\$36,200	\$37,896	\$39,857	\$40,670	\$42,094	\$43,901
United States	\$39,284	\$40,546	\$42,735	\$44,599	\$44,851	\$47,058	\$48,978	\$49,870	\$51,885	\$54,446

Information provided by Bureau of Economic Analysis

This county is served by the office listed below:
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labor.idaho.gov

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